

domestic product in taxes, the highest since World War II according to the Congressional Budget Office.

The average U.S. household will pay approximately \$5,307 more in taxes to their Government than it needs over the next 10 years according to the Congressional Research Service.

The typical American working family pays more than 38 percent of its income in total taxes, more than it spends on food, clothing, and shelter combined. The average household pays \$9,445 in federal income taxes alone, which is twice what it paid in 1985.

Is it any wonder that Americans feel as though they are working harder than ever but cannot seem to get ahead?

Broad-based tax relief is the best answer. Working families should not be working for Washington. Rather, Washington should be working for families.

I yield back any change we have in our pockets.

GUN SAFETY LEGISLATION

(Ms. DeLAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, another week in America, another mass shooting. Seven people killed at Ft. Worth, Texas, four of them children. Every day 13 children are killed by guns in America. Yet, this Congress does nothing.

Opponents to gun safety laws say that no law could have prevented the Ft. Worth tragedy. They may be right. But just because we cannot save all of the children does not mean we should not try to save any of our children.

Hundreds of children have died since the tragedy at Columbine High School, when Congress promised to act.

Today I join my colleagues to pay tribute to some of those children and to urge the congressional leadership to pass gun safety legislation in their memory.

April Bonita Turner, age 18, killed by gunfire on April 20, 1999, Washington, D.C.; Courtney Bradley, age 18, killed by gunfire on April 22, 1999, St. Louis, Missouri; James Walton, age 16, killed by gunfire on April 22, 1999, St. Louis, Missouri; Pierre David, age 18, killed by gunfire on April 28, 1999, Detroit, Michigan; Sheldon Jones, age 17, killed by gunfire on April 28, 1999, Washington, D.C.; Tonetta Smith, age 16, killed by gunfire on April 29, 1999, Washington, D.C.

NATIONAL MINORITY ENTREPRENEURS OF THE YEAR

(Mrs. WILSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, tonight in Washington, D.C., the country will recognize nine national minority entrepreneurs of the year. Of those nine, two come from Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Miguel Rios started Orion International Technologies in 1985 and has grown that company to 140 employees and \$9 million in revenue providing engineering and systems integration services for lasers at White Sands Missile Range and Air Force Research Laboratory. He is one of the Nation's top Hispanic high-tech firms.

Tito Bonano started Beta Corporation in 1993 to provide radioactive waste management services and has branched into computer services, as well. Both of these national minority entrepreneurs of the year formerly worked at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, and Tito has also had his business named as one of the top 10 of New Mexico's Flying 40, the fastest growing high-tech firms.

We are all proud of them as Americans and as New Mexicans and we honor them today.

YOUTH VIOLENCE PLAGUES OUR INNER CITIES

(Ms. LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, youth violence has plagued our inner cities for years. Legislators, community activists, parents, and teachers have all called for a comprehensive solution.

Homicide is the leading cause of death among black males age 15 to 24. Unfortunately, now gun violence is now happening everywhere. We must pass gun safety legislation now. Access to guns by children and criminals should end.

Let us remember all children who have been killed by gunfire. I call to the attention of my colleagues those who have been killed since the Columbine tragedy:

Pablo Vega, age 18, killed by gunfire on May 4, 1999, Detroit, Michigan; Ernest Troche, age 17, killed by gunfire on May 8, 1999, Bridgeport, Connecticut; Salvador Galio, Jr., age 13, killed by gunfire on May 9, 1999, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Tyquan Miller, age 9, killed by gunfire on May 16, 1999, Richmond, Virginia; Brad Crouse, age 15, killed by gunfire on May 19, 1999, Hillsboro, Wisconsin; Edward Belton, age 18, killed by gunfire on May 21, 1999, St. Louis, Missouri; George Camacho, age 14, killed by gunfire on May 22, 1999, San Bernardino, California.

PRESIDENT RELEASES FALN TERRORISTS

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, last week the President of the United States released the FALN terrorists from prison onto the streets. These terrorists committed heinous crimes and were convicted of robbery, sedition, and con-

spiracy. We even have pictures of them actually making bombs. The President somehow trusts these terrorists that they will now do the right thing.

Mr. Speaker, when it comes to the American taxpayers deciding for themselves how to spend their own money, the President does not trust them. The President prefers to continue letting the bureaucracy in Washington dictate how Americans' hard-earned money is spent.

This is what President Clinton said earlier this year: "So the question is, what do we do with the surplus? We could give it all back and hope you spend it right."

How about that? The President can only hope the American people would do the right thing. That is outrageous, Mr. Speaker. The President trusts FALN terrorists. He trusts the federal bureaucracy here in Washington. But he does not trust the American people with their own money.

What is next? The Unabomber on the street?

GUN SAFETY LEGISLATION

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, in my hometown of Evanston, Illinois, I have been to three funerals in recent months. I have cried with grieving parents bearing their children because of senseless gun violence. To honor the memories of those children, I pledge my support for gun safety legislation and continue the roll call of names of children who have been killed by gunfire since Columbine:

Susie King, age 11, killed by gunfire on May 23, 1999, West Lampeter, Pennsylvania; Lee Brown, age 16, killed by gunfire on May 27, 1999, Forest Park, Georgia; Armando Garcia, age 16, killed by gunfire on May 28, 1999, San Bernardino, California; Angela Yglesias, age 18, killed by gunfire May 28, 1999, Detroit, Michigan; Antonio Munoz, age 17, killed by gunfire on May 30, 1999, Providence, Rhode Island; Iris Turull, age 3, killed by gunfire on May 31, 1999, Bronx, New York; Daron Mitchell, age 18, killed by gunfire on May 31, 1999, Akron, Ohio; Allen Darrington, age 17, killed by gunfire on June 1, 1999, Kansas City.

ELIMINATION OF THE MARRIAGE TAX PENALTY

(Mr. WELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, is it right, is it fair that under our tax code married working couples pay more in taxes just because they are married? Is it right, is it fair that 21 million married working couples pay higher taxes than identical couples with identical incomes who live together outside of marriage? Of course it is wrong.